



# City of Alexandria

## Transportation Commission

### **Regular Meeting**

November 3, 2010

7:30 p.m.

City Hall, Room 1101

### **MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:** Donna Fossum, Councilman Krupicka, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey, Phil Voorhees, Louisa Ward, and Justin Wilson

**Staff Present:** Karen Callahan-T&ES, Jeff Farner-P&Z, Abi Lerner-T&ES, Sandra Marks-T&ES, Jim Maslanka-T&ES, Valerie Peterson-P&Z, Carrie Sanders-T&ES, Steve Sindiong-T&ES and Andrea Wilkinson-T&ES

A quorum being present, the Transportation Commission meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7:35 pm.

#### **1. October 6, 2010 Minutes**

Commissioner Fossum recommended three minor grammatical edits for the October minutes. The edits were approved and the October 6 minutes were voted on and unanimously approved.

#### **2. Funding Update**

T&ES Staff Abi Lerner reported that Council directed staff to partner with Arlington County for the Crystal City Potomac Yard Streetcar Environmental Analysis; that at its next meeting, the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) agreed to consider the City's request to reprogram funds to be used toward the environmental analysis of the Potomac Yard Metro Station; that the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was not awarded HUD funds for a regional bike sharing program, however, the Council of Governments (COG) has submitted a grant application to Kaiser-Permanente to receive \$500,000 to fund regional bike sharing proposals; that WMATA is building a new bus terminal in Fairfax County which will replace the existing terminal on Pendleton Street in Alexandria; Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) grant for a streetcar coalition was not funded; that NVTC Board passed a resolution for funding and provisions that transit services in Northern Virginia be a primary focus with local representation on the WMATA Board; and that the City participated in negotiations with the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) concerning CMAQ and RSTP projects for FY 2012. As a result of the negotiations, the City was allocated \$3 million.

#### **3. Priority Transportation Projects – PUBLIC HEARING**

T&ES staff Sandra Marks gave a brief overview of the City's Strategic Goal #3 which is to develop locally reliable funding mechanism to support a fiscally constrained transportation

plan. A funding option being explored by Alexandria is the Commercial Real Estate Tax which was enacted over the last couple of years in Arlington and Fairfax County. This levy could bring in \$10,400,000 per year if the tax rate is set at \$0.12.5 per \$100 assessed value on commercially zoned and used property in the City. Ms. Marks cited the draft list of potential projects requiring additional funding. The City has been meeting with various community groups to provide an update on the project, and will continue to have meetings through early next year. The first community meeting will be held on November 11.

Chair Posey opened the public hearing and stated the purpose of the public hearing is to receive public input on the draft list of potential projects. Three members of the public spoke; former Councilman Tim Lovain for the Northern Virginia Streetcar Coalition, Stewart Schwartz for the Coalition for Smarter Growth and Adam Froehlig, a citizen of Fairfax County. Comments from the public and Commission included suggestions for lower cost projects such as bicycle improvements, ensuring that projects are done citywide, and inclusion of transit improvements (such as transit signal priority, all day transit service, and transit service to schools).

**4. Transaction 2040 Plan**

Abi Lerner reported that the Northern Virginia Long Term Transportation Plan update, funded by NVTA, is also known as the TransAction 2040 Plan Update. It will build upon the TransAction 2030 regional transportation plan which was completed in January 2006. Staff will need to provide input to the plan and will be requesting guidance from the Transportation Commission. The plan projects are related to future transportation projects that have regional impacts. Commissioners Kevin Posey and Phil Voorhees volunteered for the subcommittee. The project begins in November 2010 with a final report due in spring 2012.

**5. Beauregard Plan (Transportation)**

P&Z Staff Jeff Farner communicated that other than planning efforts, transportation is the most important issue of this plan which involves approximately 250 acres. Also occurring in the Beauregard corridor is Fairfax County's Baileys Crossroads' 5.5 million square feet and Arlington County's Columbia Pike's 6 million square feet of approved new development. Landmark-Van Dorn also has an approved plan of 10-12 million square feet of net new development. Next steps are coordination with adjacent municipalities of the different approved plans, community outreach, an advisory group, work sessions with Council, integrating land use and transportation, phasing and integrating development contingent upon the transportation infrastructure. On Nov 23, staff must submit a proposal to Council regarding the planning process and the creation of an advisory.

**6. Parking Update**

T&ES staff Andrea Wilkinson reported on the multi-space parking meters installation, Council work session on parking, parking meter rates and the proposed all must pay all can park initiative. 6 multi-space meters will be operational by Nov 15 and replacement of all single spaced meters in Old Town by April 2011. Council's parking work session discussions involved the Old Town Parking Study Workgroup's recommendations. Council directed staff to resolve the inconsistencies of parking meters hours, residential parking regulations, improve parking information to the public, further study of a public valet system, and decrease single spaced meter rates back to \$1.25 per hour. A public meeting will be held November 13 on the parking ordinance.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 8:51 pm, seconded and unanimously accepted.